

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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C O N F I D E N T I A L DUBLIN 01301

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, YO, EI
SUBJECT: VISIT OF IRISH FOREIGN MINISTER O'KENNEDY TO
YUGOSLAVIA

1. IRISH FOREIGN MINISTER O'KENNEDY'S 7-16 APRIL
OFFICIAL VISIT TO YUGOSLAVIA WAS MOSTLY CEREMONIAL,
ACCORDING TO POLITICAL DIRECTOR NOEL DORR, WHO ACCOMPAN-
IED HIM. IT WAS THE FIRST SUCH VISIT SINCE DIPLOMATIC
RELATIONS WERE OPENED IN APRIL OF LAST YEAR. IT
FOLLOWED A BRIEF STOPOVER AT IRELAND'S SHANNON AIRPORT
BY PRESIDENT TITO RECENTLY ON HIS WAY TO WASHINGTON,
DURING WHICH TITO INVITED O'KENNEDY.

2. O'KENNEDY DID NOT SEE TITO DURING THE VISIT, ACCORD-
ING TO USUAL PRACTICE. HE MET WITH FORNMIN MIMIC,
COUNCIL PRESIDENT DJURANOVIC, PRESIDENCY VICE PRESIDENT
DORONSKI AND A NUMBER OF OTHER OFFICIALS (HOPE WE CAME
CLOSE ON SPELLINGS AND TITLES).

3. DISCUSSIONS INCLUDED THE MIDDLE EAST, HORN OF AFRICA,
RHODESIA, CSCE, EAST-WEST RELATIONS, THE YUGOSLAV
ECONOMIC AGREEMENT, AND A NUMBDR OF OTHER TOPICS. THE
IRISH WERE CAREFUL TO STICK TO AGREED EC POSITIONS AND
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THE YUGOSLAVS STUCK TO THEIR USUAL POSITIONS (INSOFAR AS
THE IRISH WERE AWARE). THE IRISH TOOK THE OCCASION TO
BRING UP CUBAN INTERVENTION IN THE HORN SEVERAL TIMES,
NOTING THAT THIS SURROGATE RUSSIAN FORCE CAN SCARCELY BE
CALLED NON-ALIGNED, AND MENTIONING THE VENUE OF THE
UPCOMING NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT. THE YUGOSLAVS SAID THEY
WERE "CONCERNED" ABOUT THE HORN. THE YUGOSLAVS ALSO

OBSERVED THAT AT LEAST PART OF THE REASON THE SOVIETS WENT INTO THE HORN SO STRONGLY IS BECAUSE OF THEIR OUSTER FROMR MDDDLNFAYQ ROLE -- FACE IS INVOLVED.

4. THE YUGOSLAVS PRESSED THE GOI TO GIVE ASSISTANCE ON NEGOTIATION OF A FAVORABLE ECONOMIC AGREEMENT WITH THE EC. O'KENNEDY VAGUELY PROMISED TO "BE HELPFUL" BUT SIDESTEPED BY SAYING IT WAS AN AFFAIR FOR THE EC COMMISSION AND COUNCIL.

5. DORR GAVE US A DETAILED BRIEFING ON TWE SUBSTANTIVE TALKS, BUT THEY SEEM TO HAVE BEEN ROUTINE AND NOT WORTH REPEATING. IT CF INTERESTING THAT THE YUGOSLAVS MADE NO ATTEMPT TO WOO THE IRISH INTO THE NON-ALIGNED CAMP -- SOME FORNMIN OFFICIALS HAD SPECULATED THAT THIS MIGHT HAPPEN. THERE HAS APPEARED RECENTLY HERE A WELL-FINANCED PRESSURE GROUP TRYING TO GET IRELAND TO GET CLOSER TO THE NNA'S, ESPECIALLY IN THE CSCE CONTEXT. THE YUGOSLAVS, HOWEVER, SEEM TO ACCEPT IRELAND MOSTLY AS AN EC, CAPITALIST COUNTRY -- THOUGH TECHNICALLY NEUTRAL AND NOT A MEMBER OF ANY MILITARY ALLIANCE. SHANNON

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